

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 01422 211001Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4536

INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JAKATA

S E C R E T TAIPEI 1422

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, TW, VS

SUBJECT: LST LOAN

REF: STATE 064016

1. WE BELIEVE THAT GROC WOULD PROBABLY WISH TO BE FORTH-COMING IF ASKED BY GVN FOR LST LOAN. HOWEVER, GROC WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY ESIRE ASSURANCES THAT LST'S WOULD BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION OR THAT ROC WOULD BE OTHERWISE COMPENSATED. IF USG BROKERED THE LOAN, GROC MIGHT DEMAND THAT WE GUARANTEE SUCH ASSURANCES OR CERTIFICATIONS.

WE ALSO EXPECT GROC WOULD WISH TO BE ADVISED AS TO HOW VESSELS WERE TO BE USED AND WHO WOULD PROVIDE CREWS.

2. ROC LST'S ARE REGULARLY USED TO RESUPPLY OFF-SHORE ISLANDS. HOWEVER, IF POLITICAL DECISION WERE MADE TO LOAN LST'S TO GVN, AND SUITABLE GUARANTEE AND/OR QUID PRO QUO WERE FORTHCOMING, WE BELIEVE ROCN COULD MAKE SOME AVIALABLE. ROCN HAS 22 LST'S, OF WHICH 17 HAVE UNDERGONE MAJOR REBUILD INCLUDING TOTALLY NEW HULL. AN 18TH IS UNDERGOING REBUILD NOW.

UNGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIPS, POLICIES, LST, LOANS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TAIPEI01422
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750099-0239
From: TAIPEI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750326/aaaaawyp.tel
Line Count: 51
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 1
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STATE 064016
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <17 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LST LOAN
TAGS: MASS, TW, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006